**Abstract** 

5

10

15

The invention relates to a device for optical distance measurement, in particular a handheld device, having an emission branch (14) which defines a emission channel and has at least one emission unit (22, 24) for emitting modulated optical radiation (36) in the direction of a target object (20), having a reception branch (18) which defines a reception channel (44) and has at least one receiver (54), and having a reference branch (15) which defines a reference path (40), and having switch means (38) for deflecting the measurement signal (36) between the emission branch (14) and the reference branch (15).

According to the invention, it is proposed that the switch means (38) are mechanically driven.

(Fig. 3)